

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1850

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, UR, US

SUBJECT: KIEV CONSULATE GENERAL

1. THE EMBASSY IS INCREASINGLY CONCERNED BY THE LACK OF PROGRESS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES INVOLVING THE KIEV CONSULATE GENERAL. THESE ISSUES ARE REVIEWED BELOW:

2. TRAVEL NOTES: SINCE SEPTEMBER BOTH THE EMBASSY AND THE DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN TRYING TO OBTAIN SOVIET APPROVAL TO PERMIT THE KIEV ADVANCE PARTY TO FILE TRAVEL NOTES WITH THE UKRAINIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS INSTEAD OF WITH MFA MOSCOW. SEE STATE'S 231723. FOR THE REASONS DESCRIBED IN MOSCOW'S 18387 PARA 5, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT INFORM THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON THAT HENCEFORTH THE SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY IN NEW YORK WILL HAVE TO FILE ITS TRAVEL NOTES WITH THE DEPARTMENT RATHER THAN WITH USUN. ADDITIONALLY, WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT INFORM THE SOVIETS THAT WE WILL NOT BE PREPARED TO HANDLE SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY TRAVEL NOTES AT USUN AGAIN UNTIL THE SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT KAP'S TRAVEL NOTES AT THE UKRAINIAN MFA.

3. TELEX FACILITIES. ON OCTOBER 5, 1976, THE EMBASSY IN NOTE 1404 TO MFA REQUESTED TELEX FACILITIES BETWEEN MOSCOW AND KAP. DESPITE PERSONAL CALLS AT MFA (SEE MOSCOW'S 18387) THERE HAS BEEN NO RESOLUTION OF THIS APPARENTLY SIMPLE REQUEST. THE LACK OF TELEX FACILITIES HAMPERS THE EMBASSY IN COMMUNICATING IN A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIMELY FASHION WITH KAP.

4. FINISHING FLORENTSIYA STREET APARTMENTS. THE EMBASSY HAS HAD NO RESPONSE TO ITS LETTER OF OCTOBER 20, 1976 REQUESTING MFA TO ADVISE THE KIEV AUTHORITIES THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO USE CONTRACT SPECIALISTS TO FINISH THE THREE APARTMENTS AT FLORENTSIYA STREET (SEE MOSCOW 16534 AND 17050). ADDITIONAL FOLLOW UPS IN KIEV AND MOSCOW HAVE NOT RESOLVED THIS PROBLEM (SEE MOSCOW 18079 AND 18332 AND 18387).

5. RELOCATION OF STRELETSKAYA STREET TENANTS. APPARENTLY AS A RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S STRONG STAND ON THIS ISSUE, KAP INFORMED THE EMBASSY ON DECEMBER 6 THAT MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE TENANTS HAD MOVED OUT OF THE STRELETSKAYA COMPLEX AND THAT THE OTHERS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO LEAVE BY DECEMBER 15.

6. BECAUSE OF THE PROGRESS ON STRELETSKAYA STREET RELOCATION, WE BELIEVE ADDITIONAL PRESSURE BY THE DEPARTMENT IS NECESSARY TO RESOLVE THE OTHER ISSUES. WE SUGGEST THAT IN ADDITION TO WITHDRAWING PERMISSION FOR THE SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY TO FILE TRAVEL NOTES WITH USUN THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD UNDERTAKE APPROPRIATE RESTRICTIONS ON THE SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY'S PREPARATION OF LIVING QUARTERS IN NEW YORK. THE RESOLUTION OF THE FLORENTSIYA STREET PROBLEM IS PARTICULARLY PRESSING SINCE THE EMBASSY'S CONTRACT SPECIALISTSHAVE COMPLETED THE NEW APARTMENTS AT 148 LENINSKY IN MOSCOW AND HAVE RETURNED TO LONDON FOR CHRISTMAS VACATION. THE MATERIALS FOR FINISHING THE FLORENTSIYA APARTMENTS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED BY THE CONTRACTOR, ASSEMBLED AND ARE IN STORAGE IN A CONTAINER IN LONDON. CONTAINER TRANSIT TIME BETWEEN LONDON AND MOSCOW IS APPROXIMATELY ONE TO TWO WEEKS. THE CONTRACT TEAM IS PREPARED TO RETURN TO MOSCOW THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY. IT IS IMPERATIVE, THEREFORE, THAT WE OBTAIN SOVIET APPROVAL FOR THIS PROJECT NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 17 TO AVOID LOSING ADDITIONAL TIME IN COMPLETING THE FLORENTSIYA APARTMENTS, AND TO PROVIDE ADQUATE HOUSING FOR KAP.

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